<u>REMARKS</u>

The original claims are cancelled and newly added claims are provided that fall within the scope of the original claims as searched by examiner.

The newly added claims are supported within the original specification and no new material has been entered into this application.

Support for the claim amendments is provided throughout the specification, and an example of at least one reference in the specification in support for each claim amendment is also provided:

Support for claim 4 is provided throughout the specification and in figures 1 through 10(b). Support for claim 5 is provided on pages 3, 9, 10 and 22 and figure 2. Support for claim 6 is provided on page 3, 9 and 22 and in figure 2. Support for claim 7 is provided in the first paragraph of page 15 and in figures 1-10. Support for claim 8 is provided on pages 17, 18 and 22 and in figure 4. Support for claim 9 is provided on pages 13 and 22 and in figure 5. Support for claim 10 is provided on page 13 and in figure 5B. Support for claim 11 is provided on page 14 and in figures 6A, 6B and 6C. Support for claim 12 is provided on page 14 and in figure 6C. Support for claim 13 is provided on pages 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19 and in figure 8C. Support for claim 14 is provided on page 19 and in figures 1-10. Support for claim 15 is provided on page 19

and in figures 1-10. Support for claim 16 is provided on page 22. Support for claim 17 is provided on page 7. Support for claim 18 is provided on page 22. Support for claim 19 is provided on pages 7 and 15. Support for claim 20 is provided on pages 15-17, 19 and in figures 7 and 8. Support for claim 21 is provided throughout the specification and in figures 1 through 10(b). Support for claim 22 is provided on pages 3, 9, 10 and 22 and figure 2. Support for claim 23 is provided on page 3, 9 and 22 and in figure 2. Support for claim 24 is provided in the first paragraph of page 15 and in figures 1-10. Support for claim 25 is provided on pages 17, 18 and 22 and in figure 4. Support for claim 26 is provided on pages 13 and 22 and in figure 5. Support for claim 27 is provided on page 13 and in figure 5B. Support for claim 28 is provided on page 14 and in figures 6A, 6B and 6C. Support for claim 29 is provided on page 14 and in figure 6C. Support for claim 30 is provided on pages 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19 and in figure 8C. Support for claim 31 is provided on page 19 and in figures 1-10. Support for claim 32 is provided on page 19 and in figures 1-10. Support for claim 33 is provided on page 22. Support for claim 34 is provided on page 7. Support for claim 35 is provided on page 22.

The Examiner rejects the original claims of the present invention under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), citing Nithara, Weinberg and Robertson. The examiner also cites Prompt et al:

Nithara, in U.S. Patent No, 6,604,108, states an invention pertaining to an information mart system and browser that includes an automated mechanism for gathering data in accordance with a user who may analysze the operation of the

enterprise. Nithara states that the user is provided with hierarchical and relational access to the data, and able to browse the data in an intuitive manner through navigation tools provided in a graphical user interface.

Weinberg et al, in U.S. Patent No. 6,237,006, presents a visual web site analysis program with a mapping component that scans a web site and presents a graphical depiction of the URLs and links to the site.

Robertson et al, in U.S. Patent No. 5,295,243, describes a processor that produces images of a hierarchical structure perceived as a three-dimensional conic substructures having vertical or horizontal axes and cones having a parent node at its vertex and children nodes along its base. In Roberton's patent, each child can be at the vertex of another code. Robertson's cones are rotated in steps that produce the perception of object constancy for each node, and each node includes a selectable unit for indicating the node, and a grow tab to request presentation of its children nodes and links.

Prompt et al, in U.S. Publication 2001/0034733, describes a system for translating hierarchical and relational information from unrelated systems for access, navigation, searching, browing and sharing over a hierarchical computing system. Prompt's system captures schema and metadata from virtual directories and organizes an index of data records to enable customizable access to relevant views of the relational computing systems. Prompt describes several embodiments to display the virtual directory,

including use of a browser format, electronic mail format, and over a wireless medium through portable devices.

With respect to the original and amended claims, the references cited, including Nitahara, Weinberg, Robertson and Prompt nor does the prior art of record, disclose or suggest the a user interface system comprising a plurality of nodes organized into a graph of information wherein at least one node is a source node having focus, and one or more nodes forming a sub-hierarchy of the source node and represented in a view in relation to the source node by inclusion, and where one or more nodes connecting to the focus are represented in relation to the focus in a manner adjacent to the focus, a means for rendering nodes that operates according to a set of parameters that define the representation and position of nodes in the view, such that the nodes connected to the focus are represented in a view in an adjacent relation to the focus and according to the parameters, and where the one or more nodes forming a sub-hierarchy of the source node is represented in a view in relation to the source node by inclusion according to the parameters.

Applicants submit that they have placed the application in a position of allowance and respectfully request that the application be considered on its merits as amended herein.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 10, 2004   By _____
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